(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Jammu-Srinagar Rail Line

2870. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress of Jammu-Srinagar rail line; and

(b) how much time it would take to complete this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Jammu-Udhampur project has already been commissioned. Work is in progress on Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla project where overall progress is about 45%. On this project Kakapore-Budgam has been completed and Udhampur-Katra and balance on Qazigund-Baramulla are targeted for completion during 2007-08. Target for Katra-Qazigund section is under review in view of different geological conditions, adverse working conditions, forestry clearances and construction of bridges/tunnels involved.

Operation of container trains by Private Companies

†2971. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to entrust the operation of container trains to the private companies;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the private companies which have shown interest therein and applied therefor; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.